

You can write general word equations for some common types of reaction.

Acid and alkali: acid + alkali → salt + water

- An example is:
hydrochloric acid + sodium hydroxide → sodium chloride + water

Acid and metal oxide: acid + metal oxide → salt + water

- An example is:
sulphuric acid + copper oxide → copper sulphate + water

Acid and carbonate: acid + carbonate → salt + water + carbon dioxide

- An example is:
hydrochloric acid + calcium carbonate → calcium chloride + water + carbon dioxide

Acid and metal: acid + metal → salt + hydrogen

- An example is:
sulphuric acid + zinc → zinc sulphate + hydrogen

Metal and oxygen: metal + oxygen → oxide

- An example is:
magnesium + oxygen → magnesium oxide

Metal and sulphur: metal + sulphur → sulphide

- An example is:
iron + sulphur → iron sulphide

Metal and water: metal + water → hydroxide + hydrogen

- An example is:
calcium + water → calcium hydroxide + hydrogen

Combustion of hydrocarbon: fuel + oxygen → carbon dioxide + water

- An example is:
methane + oxygen → carbon dioxide + water